



A.D. 1825 N^o 5112.

S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

JOSEPH DE METTEMBERG.

MEDICINAL COMPOUND.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,

PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY :

PUBLISHED AT THE GREAT SEAL PATENT OFFICE,

25, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN.

1857.



A.D. 1825 N° 5112.

Medicinal Compound.

DE METTEMBERG'S SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, the Chevalier JOSEPH DE METTEMBERG, of Foley Place, in the Parish of Saint Marylebone, in the County of Middlesex, Physician, late Surgeon Major in the French Armies, send greeting.

5 WHEREAS His present most Excellent Majesty King George the Fourth, by His Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date at Westminster, the Twenty-sixth day of February, in the sixth year of His reign, did, for Himself, His heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Joseph De Mettemberg, His especial licence, that I, the said Joseph
10 De Mettemberg, my exors, admors, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Joseph De Mettemberg, my exors, admors, and assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times during the term of years therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed,
15 and also in His said Majesty's Colonies and Plantations abroad, my Invention of "A VEGETABLE, MERCURIAL, AND SPIRITUOUS PREPARATION WHICH I DENOMINATE QUINTESSENCE ANTI-PSORIQUE, OR METTEMBERG'S WATER, AND ALSO A PARTICULAR METHOD OF EMPLOYING THE SAME BY CUTANEOUS ABSORPTION AS A SPECIFIC AND MEDICAL COSMETIC;" in which said Letters Patent there is contained a proviso
20 obliging me, the said Joseph De Mettemberg, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, particularly to describe and ascertain the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, and

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

to cause the same to be inrolled in His Majesty's High Court of Chancery within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said in part recited Letters Patent, as in and by the same, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear.

NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said 5 Joseph De Mettemberg, do hereby declare that the nature of my said Invention, and the manner of making, producing, and compounding my aforesaid quintessence anti-psorique, or Mettemberg's water, and of using and applying the same when so made and produced, are herein-after particularly set forth and described, that is to say:— 10

When administered by cutaneous absorption, and according to the method herein-after detailed, Mettenberg's water is free from the inconveniences of mercurial and sulphureous ointments, &c., and from the dangers of internal mercurial preparations, of which the prescriptions are contained in the different pharmacopœias, the absorption of mercury as modified and divided ad 15 infinitum in the quintessence antipsorique may be rated at one grain per day when used as a diaphoretic, and at a twentieth part of a grain only as a prophylactic or preventive remedy; the beneficial effects of this specifico-cosmetic have been borne out by a foreign official summary of authentic facts. In chronic affections, of which the symptoms are very various, but the causes 20 few, practitioners are solicited to make trial of this new experimental method as a very valuable external revulsive remedy, and patients to make the same trial under their inspection.

I beg to observe in this place, 1st, that I have been placed in the rank of physician and surgeon of the first class of the French armies by a special 25 decision of the French Government of the Thirteenth June, One thousand eight hundred and four, conformably to the regulations of the law of the 10th March, One thousand eight hundred and three, for the practice of medicine.

2nd, that the invention of my specifico-cosmetic was called forth at the 30 desire of the French Government in 1794.

3rd, that I obtained public reparation against the calumnious writings levelled at my discovery by a sentence of the Correctional Tribunal of Paris, given on the First of August, 1821.

4th, that men's passions do not reason, and that most useful discoveries have 35 been rejected in their infancy.

The following is the receipt for the preparation of my quintessence anti-psorique or Mettenberg's water:—Take deuto chlorito of mercury, or corrosive sublimate, half a dram; distilled water, or other pure water, fourteen ounces;

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

vegetable spirituous infusion, which will be herein-after described, two ounces ; nitric alcohol, highly rectified, half a dram.

Modus Faciendi, or Mode of Preparation.—The mercurial salt above named is to be pounded in a glass mortar with a pestle of the same substance, and to be dissolved gradually in the distilled water, and the solution to be poured into a bottle. The vegetable spirituous infusion, and the nitric alcohol highly rectified, is to be then added, after which the bottle to be well shaken, & corked to preserve the contents, to be employed according to the mode of application herein-after described, which mode of application constitutes an essential part of this new physiological remedy, and completes the Invention.

The vegetable spirituous infusion above referred to as entering into the composition of the quintessence antipsorique or Mettenberg's water, is made as follows:—Take dried leaves of wormwood, of sage, of wild mint or mentastrum, of calamut or baum of thyme, picked clean, dried flowers of lavender, of camomile, of elder, dried roots of gentian, of male fern, of saponaria or soapwort, of each sort two ounces ; brandy of full proof strength, or from 18 to 19 degrees above 0, 192 ounces, or six French litres.

Modus Faciendi, or Manner of Preparing the Spirituous Vegetable Infusion.—The leaves and roots are to be cut small, and they are then to be put into a vessel or matrass with the flowers, the brandy is then to be poured over them, the vessel or matrass closed tight, and the mixture suffered to digest cold for about 12 or 15 days, after which time the liquour is poured off and the residuum submitted to a strong pressure to obtain the whole of it. The liquour is then to be bottled, the bottles being quite filled and well corked, when it may be preserved in a cellar for use.

Observations I wish to be observed.—1st, that it is only for the sake of a greater identity and regularity that I have named in my receipt distilled water. I declare that good common water (soft, rain, river, or spring water), filtered, if not quite limpid and clear, may be substituted in its place at all times. 2nd, that by nitric alcohol highly rectified, I mean that which has been distilled several times. 3rd, that “deuto chlorite of mercury” is the latest scientific denomination of corrosive sublimate. (Theuard, Professor of Chemistry, 3rd vol. 1824.) 4th, that I use for the composition of my specifico-cosmetic a French weight, of which the pound is sixteen ounces, the ounce eight drams, the dram of 72 grains ; this agrees with 384 scruples of English apothecaries weight to the pound, consequently the ounce contains 24 scruples, and the dram 3 scruples ; and also a measure of which the litre is 32 French ounces for water, being equivalent to 39 English ounces. 5th, although corrosive sublimate is in itself poisonous, yet it ceases to be

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

so when compounded as aforesaid, and a part of it becomes simple muriate of mercury or calomel, whilst the rest is modified by a chemical change brought about in it by the several substances added to it as above described.

Peculiar Method of using the Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Composition, or Mettenberg's Water, as a specific or special remedy against 5 psoric disease, and as a medico cosmetic, under the denomination of a new medical method, by cutaneous absorption and natural crises.—I employ and direct this composition to be used to discover, cure, and prevent psoric diseases internal as well as external. First, to discover and cure a multi- 10 tude of chronic maladies reputed obstinate and incurable, which are produced and supported by old or degenerated scabies, or by internal psoric disease, *sublatâ causâ tollitur effectus*. These maladies shew themselves frequently in the various symptoms of obstruction, gout, rheumatism, tetter, ulcers, dropsy, pulmonary catarrhs, epilepsy, intermittent fevers, paralysis, a cachetic state, &c., which symptoms change again in our descendants and become 15 complicated with other morbid diseases or humors. Secondly, to cure radically all kinds of visible or apparent scabies, whether recent, old, inveterate, accidental, critical, and salutary, with this advantage over all other medical practice, that it does not prevent the patient from pursuing his habitual occupations and regimen, and that it does not spoil the linen nor 20 clothes which he wears while in the use of it, which is an important advantage, particularly for the public service. 3rdly, to prevent these same maladies in the form of a cosmetic for the use of the toilette and cleansing the person, for which it will be found one of the best cosmetics. The general treatment or mode of using the quintessence antipsorique, or Mettemberg's 25 water, as an indicative, curative, derivative, and depurative, or external revulsive means, is by lotion or wash, to be applied as follows:—The bottle containing the quintessence antipsorique, or Mettenberg's water, having been well shaken, about 2 or three ounces of it should be poured into a glass and thence into a basin or deep plate. The patient should then dip the 30 inside of his hands into it and wash his limbs (from the shoulders to the fingers, and from the hips to the extremities of the toes, including the soles of the feet) all over several times until the whole dose be consumed. The air striking upon the pores favors the absorption of the remedy into the skin of the limbs thus washed with it, and in less than a quarter of an hour the 35 patient must complete the absorption by rubbing himself lightly all over with the palm of the hands until the skin is dry. To avoid the effect of the cold upon the naked skin, he should uncover only two limbs at a time, and wash and rub himself before the fire or in a room warmed by a stove. This

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

operation is only to be performed once a day, and the best time for it is when the digestion is completed, and particularly in the evening just before going to bed. In cases of apparent or visible scabies (recent, old, and inveterate) the strength of the medicine must be first diminished by adding an equal portion of
5 common water to it, which will double the quantity of the dose above mentioned, and then the patient will wash and rub all the other parts of his body affected with eruptions and itching also, but more lightly than the limbs, until he can, by convalescence, return to the pure quintessence applied only to the limbs as aforesaid. For those parts which are affected with violent eruptions previously
10 existing or called forth by the remedy, the quintessence must for a time be mixed with at least three parts of either river or spring water, or be so diluted that the patient shall at no time experience more than a very slight smarting, the dose being in all cases augmented or diminished according to its effects. The use of Mettemberg's water is to be thus continued until all eruption
15 whatsoever is removed, till the skin recovers its natural smoothness and beauty, and until lotion made with the quintessence alone produces no more sensible effect than an ablution with common water, and only occasions (with the exception of a few pimples here and there) a slight unnatural perspiration, more or less abundant; the quintessence must then be mixed with two thirds
20 of water, and the use of it only discontinued when the pimples and itching have entirely gone away, and the perspiration has again become natural or insensible, which experience has shewn to be an entire destruction of the psoric disease. The bottle should be well corked after having been used, and the glass, as well as the basin or plate, rinsed, and the whole put away. A
25 bottle of Mettemberg's water containing from 26 to 28 ounces lasts eight or ten days, when used without dilution. It has an agreeable smell, and does not spoil the linen.

Directions.—In the indicative treatment of scabies, or for the discovery of such as is presumed to be reperculated, palliated, or degenerated (that is, driven
30 in, and apparently cured), or if internal psoric disease, the dose must be reduced to half the foregoing, and mixed with an equal portion of water, when used for children under the age of five years, and mixed with a third part of water for children from five to twelve. The same process must be observed for temperaments more or less delicate, more or less irritable, more
35 or less weakened, resorting, however, gradually to the use of the undiluted quintessence. If thus modified it does not produce its usual effect, should the cause of the complaint not come within the range of my specific, it occasions no pimples, no itching, no sensible or marked effect upon the skin, nor does it affect the general state of the health; it then serves merely to.

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

beautify the skin, and it would be useless to prolong the trial of it beyond from two to four bottles; but in the contrary case, by bringing successively out upon the skin the internal or disguised psoric disease, it produces the cure, or at least the amendment, of maladies of all kinds which may result from such disease, and there will appear, principally at the bend of the arms, of the wrists, on the hand, and the inside of the thighs, either redness or an eruption of pimples, accompanied with itching, which fall in scurf, and are succeeded by others, and disappear by perspiration. This treatment by cutaneous absorption does not derange the usual mode of living and the occupations of the patient; it does not subject him to the necessity of any preliminary preparation nor of any peculiar regimen; he requires no other anti-psoric remedy, either internal or external, it being sufficient that he should be temperate, avoid excesses, cold, damp, and draughts of air; he must therefore be careful to clothe himself, and lie rather more warmly in bed than usual, that he may not thwart the crisis, which is to be produced by perspiration. In the indicative, derivative, and depurative treatment, the patient may neglect washing and rubbing his arms, and confine the lotions to the lower extremities, extending them to the haunches and buttocks, and using the whole of the dose above mentioned of the specific; he should, however, at least once a week, and previous to putting on clean linen, wash all the other parts of his body with a mixture formed of one part of the quintessence and three parts of warm water, and dry himself afterwards with a cloth. I must observe again, that my specific is confined to the destruction and cure of psoric disease in general, and that its application in maladies, infirmities, or diseases which have no connection with it, is followed by no eruption of pimples or salutary crisis. I wish it to be observed at the same time, that this disease proceeding also from internal causes, such as bad food, the suppression or diminution of the perspiration, of the menstrual discharge, licentiousness of the imagination, a consequence of corrupt moral affections, &c., &c., many invalids carry the elements of it in their blood, without its ever having developed itself externally by the symptoms which ordinarily characterise it. This will explain critical and salutary scabies. The ordinary dose is from two to four bottles to prove its efficacy or inefficacy in chronic or obstinate affections, whereof the cause is unknown; from eight to twelve to purify the blood in cases of scabies degenerated or internal psoric disease; from two to four to destroy radically old and inveterate scabies proceeding from external causes; one bottle to cure the eruptions of scabies recently communicated and not susceptible of renewed eruptions, and one bottle at most to restore to its previous state and its natural seat scabies newly repercutated and not changed in its nature. If the

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

remedy acts too powerfully, it must be modified for the time with a good deal of water. The patient must not seek to hurry its effects in the hopes of a speedier treatment; he must sound nature and follow its course, which will not be forced, for impatience will only retard the cure. In cases of scabies degenerated or of internal psoric disease (of chronic psoric maladies, reputed obstinate or incurable), the eruptions excited, though always accompanied with itching, shew themselves principally under the form of milia, tetters, erisypelas, prurigo, and the patient must not mind the length of the treatment, even should it exceed three months; the virus which infects the mass of the blood, and prevents its free circulation, can only be extirpated insensibly, and in proportion to the regeneration of the humours. It is necessary that the crisis should take place in a gentle and progressive manner, and not violently; and at the same time a strengthening regimen ought to be followed, which will support nature and prepare a good state of digestion, as good soups or broths, and succulent and nutritive aliments; wine, porter, chocolate, coffee, and tea, taken in moderation, are not prejudicial; exercise and motion in airy places are also good. The use of the quintessence should not be discontinued suddenly. After having derived from the treatment the desired benefit, recourse should be had from time to time to the prophylactic lotion herein-after mentioned. The spring and summer are the most favourable seasons for beginning the treatment of degenerate scabies or of internal psoric disease. Few or no pimples come on the hands, and the eruption, being changed in its nature, does not communicate scabies. The cure of apparent and contagious scabies may be performed at all times. Before beginning the lotions, the large pimples should be opened with a point. After the first few lotions, the virus begins to lose its contagious quality, and with a little precaution the person suffering may continue to mix in society without fear of communicating it. When the skin is dirty, particularly on the hands and feet, it must be washed with common water before beginning the use of the quintessence. (Persons with whom economy is not an object, may begin by washing themselves with a lotion of the quintessence modified with three times its quantity of water, and afterwards wipe themselves with a cloth, in order the better to cleanse the skin, open the pores, and thus prepare the way for the other lotions of the remedy, which then acts as an internal medicament.) In cases of scabies, where it is only a local malady, or where it does not infect the mass of the blood, and its seat is confined to the skin, no renewed eruptions appear, and the cure is performed very quickly. After the first few lotions the pimples become deadened, the itching diminishes, and perspiration and sleep return. In all other cases the

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

eruptions of scabies are reproduced, and the treatment then becomes more or less tedious, according as the system is more or less vitiated in its humors, and according to the constitution of the patient.

Lastly, Mettemberg's water may be used in travelling, and the use of it discontinued in very cold weather, or when the patient does not feel inclined 5 to wash himself. Nothing retards a cure more than scratching, but a few drops of the quintessence in half a glass of water will serve to allay any itching, as well as to dress all psoric eruptions. But large excoriations should be covered with a softening and desiccated salve; as, for example, one of white lead ointment, or with a plaster of red lead spread upon cloth. An emollient 10 and maturative plaister, as for example, compound diachylum, should be put on the boils or small tumors, and a piece of oiled or gummed silk kept on the parts affected with tetters. It is indispensable for the patient to be cleanly, and to change his linen and bed linen as usual; as to mattresses and counter-panes, and clothes which cannot be washed with lye, they must be beaten and 15 exposed to the fresh air; or, still better, it is indispensable for a patient who has not the means of changing his dress and his bed clothes (if he does not wish to expose himself to perpetuate or renew the infection of scabies) to wash and cleanse well that part of his clothes which immediately touches the skin, and for still greater security to impregnate them afterwards with the 20 anti-psoric water. Mettemberg's water is always used cold when alone, but when modified or diluted, it is indifferent whether cold, lukewarm, or hot water be added to it. Women who during the treatment should happen to menstruate may continue it, observing to add an equal portion of hot water to the liquor. Should the nails become more or less stained, it 25 need excite no anxiety, as they are restored to their natural state soon after. This slight inconvenience happens mostly in the treatment of degenerated scabies to those patients who dip a sponge or rag into the pure liquor, in order to spread it over the skin of their limbs, thus necessarily and indistinctly impregnating the nails. This inconvenience may be easily avoided by 30 using only the inside of the hands for rubbing in the medicine without touching the nails (as before explained in the article Treatment), or else a brush of goat's hair with a long handle may be used for applying the lotion, still using, however, the dry palm of the hand to rub the specific into the skin. Persons who do not make a constant use of the remedy, and only employ it at 35 the toilette with a sponge, are not exposed to stain their nails. Besides, those who devote themselves to the care of patients preserve themselves from the effects of the contagion by washing their hands immediately after having used them for rubbing, as seen herein-after in the article Prophylactic Lotion. Preg-

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

nant women and wetnurses may use it, and it will benefit their children. Wetnurses may wash the bodies of their children with a few drops of the quintessence only in half a glass of water rather lukewarm. During the treatment the patient must abstain from all active internal remedies, and confine himself to the use of analeptics, such as milk, wine, or porter, and mucilaginous beverages. In all complicated cases where there exists a malady foreign to scabies which requires immediate attention, the use of Mettemberg's water should either be deferred or quite relinquished. In cases of acute psoric maladies, of uneasiness, of fever, of inflammation, of internal pains, of irritation and prevention of sleep, of violent eruptions and itching, a softening, temperate, and refreshing regimen should be observed, and beverage of a corresponding nature taken; as these maladies diminish, the ordinary regimen should be gradually resumed. When the patient experiences a loss of appetite, sourness on the stomach, clamminess and bitterness in the mouth, has strong breath, a more copious discharge of saliva, and thick urine, he should take some slight purgatives, and cease using the lotions; he must also avoid all unnatural evacuations, except those through the pores of the skin, and follow, for complicated cases, the general principles of medicine. Persons in whom the nervous system is very irritable may alternately use the lotions, and a common bath rather approaching to hot than lukewarm. They may also towards the close of the treatment, in cases of degenerated scabies, leave an interval of one or even two days between the lotions. Persons who have blisters and issues must dress them as usual during the treatment, taking care not to derange the edges of their bandages. The same line of conduct must be observed in all other surgical cases; if one of the limbs happens to be the part affected it must be excepted from the lotions administered to the three others, in order to divide and derive the internal psoric disease from the disordered part, which it is requisite to calm and strengthen. Mettemberg's water is never applied otherwise than externally; if any of it was swallowed from inadvertence, its effect would be to produce vomiting, which would be promoted by drinking a quantity of warm water, after which some rich broths and emollient clysters, and other softening remedies, should be administered. The empty bottles may be used to put wine or any other liquid for drinking in after they have been well rinsed first with lye and then with fresh water. The quintessence anti-psorique, or Mettemberg's water, may be conveyed by land, by water, and into all countries, without being subject to be spoiled, care being taken to keep it on its arrival in a temperate place. To sum up, it is sufficient during the indicative, derivate, and depurative treatment, to observe the following rules, viz^t: 1st, at night to put an extra covering over the feet

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

when in bed. 2nd, during the day to wear two shirts, one over the other, or one shirt with a flannel waistcoat, flannel drawers, or petticoat worsted or cotton, or rabbits hair. 3rd, to take in the evening after the lotions, and in the morning a quarter of an hour after getting up, some weak tea. 4th, lastly, to calm and strengthen the interior and drive the crisis to the exterior 5 of the body. In pains symptomatic of gout and rheumatism, which proceeded from intercepted perspiration, as well as from repercuted scabies, I should recommend, in addition to my specific or medico-cosmetic lotions, the use of the following plants, as well in the form of a light and agreeable sweetened tea, as in fumigations applied to the part affected, which should be 10 afterwards wrapped up in flannel. Take dried leaves of sage, germander, ground ivy, white nettle, and dried flowers of camomile, equal quantities of each. Patients are, moreover, particularly requested to undergo the treatment before described under the guidance of medical advisers in whom they place confidence. 15

Prophylatic Lotion, or peculiar Manner of using Mettemberg's Water for the Toilette, as a Preventative and Preservative against Psoric Infliction, rather than a Cure for the same.—In order to completely cleanse the skin and to preserve it against the contagious effects of scabies, the person using it will take a liquor glass full of the quintessence anti-psorique, mixed with 20 three times the quantity of water (that is, a quarter of the quintessence to three quarters of water), and was generally or partially all the external parts of the body according to the directions herein-before mentioned, and will then wipe it dry. A second lotion should in like manner be rubbed in until absorbed, which is to be applied exclusively to the four limbs, or only to the 25 hands. Thus when a person happens to have slept in a contagious bed, or to have touched anything suspicious, Mettemberg's water serves at once as a cosmetic and as a preservative against a malady the consequences of which are so cruel. Besides, this lotion will maintain the natural perspiration; used also occasionally for the head, it prevents the formation of the pellicles which 30 are found at the roots of the hair, and which proceeding from intercepted perspiration eventually cause the hair to fall off. After each lotion the head must be wiped. From 12 to 15 drops of the quintessence decanted into half a glass of fresh water will do to wash the face, and the same proportions should be observed in using the bidet. The preservative virtue possessed by 35 Mettemberg's water against the effects of the contagion of scabies may be explained thus: if it is incontestable that this water has the property of destroying even the radical disease in the oldest and most inveterate scabies, it follows a fortiori that it must be capable of destroying it in its beginning, and

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

of preventing its extension. The desired effect could only fail of being produced where the use and absorption of the remedy was not proportionate to the malignity of the virus, and then if any pimples should appear, accompanied with itching, the patient might quickly get rid of them by applying a few lotions according to the article Treatment. Moreover, experience proves that the freshness and beauty of the skin depend principally on the freedom with which the insensible perspiration takes place. Every animal of great muscular power (as the horse) would lose his strength, and even die, if the perspiration was not carefully kept up by daily rubbing with the curry comb and brush. Thus in northern climates, where fogs are more common, and consequently the perspiration more susceptible of being intercepted, the means above described for preserving the health must be considered as very advantageous, particularly when assisted by a method suited to the climate, such as the one in question, as will be seen hereafter in the article Medico-cosmetic.

A few Reflexions on a False Medical System, on the Ravages occasioned by Psoric Disease, on its Nature, on the Necessity of opposing to it a triumphant Remedy, and principally of expelling it through the Pores of Perspiration.—The insect named sareopte, or hand-worm (*acarus scabiei*), does not always exist in the pimple of the itch, and when it does exist, it is one of the many and very various effects of psoric disease in general, which proceeds as well from internal as external causes, and which a false method still prevents from being properly investigated, to the great detriment of the progress of practical medicine. Thus the external symptoms which characterise all kinds of scabies are derived from psoric disease; to cause them to disappear very quickly to the eye is a bad system of practice, which does not always destroy their morbid principle, but which produces a number of chronic affections reputed obstinate and incurable, which may be defined under the name of degenerated scabies. These secondary maladies besiege more than ever the hospitals, appearing in innumerable shapes, and occasioning an immense annual expense, not only in the public hospitals of Government, but likewise in all other hospital establishments, the greatest part of which might be saved by the use of my new medicine and medical method, since it requires no attendance at the hospital. The opponents to this prudent doctrine have chosen to give the preference to sulfureous fumigation (whose sentence time has already pronounced), and to other astringent and repercussive modes, inconsiderately used until now for the cure of scabies, which modes (weakening the animal economy, closing the pores of the skin, choking up the lymphatic vessels, and deranging the equilibrium of the functions) act in contradiction to the order prescribed by nature, and explain the metastasis of the psoric matter. The objections raised against the new external revulsive treatment tending to prove that it is longer, and

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

therefore more expensive to Government and the private administration of health than the palliatives of all apparent or visible scabies, must fall when it is considered that this physiological treatment does not require the invalids to remain at the hospital; that soldiers and sailors remain fit for duty, and individuals for their occupation; that prisoners and the poor may be treated at home 5 by charitable societies; that neither their linen nor their clothes are injured; that from the first use of the lotions their virus begins to lose its contagious quality; and, lastly, that a simple lotion, lasting a quarter of an hour daily for about from twenty to forty days, is not to be put on a parallel with infesting and complicated remedies, as disgusting as they are dangerous, and the crowding together of 10 subjects affected with itch for fifteen days in the receptacles for putrid fevers. Facts prove more; by introducing into society the quintessence anti-psorique, and using it as the means of producing personal cleanliness by washing with it, that scourge of society, the itch, would in time be annihilated. Psoric disease in general is in its sources a humour or real matter sui generis which must be 15 driven out of the body through the pores of perspiration. The only medical directions necessary to be attended to while using my remedy are, to preserve the stomach and other viscera, to avoid disturbing the natural and vital functions, to derive the psoric disease in general from the internal organs and from the mass of humours, and to cause the salutary and curative crises 20 to take place on the skin, where this disease must be extirpated. It is the union of all these circumstances which combine together both in the exact composition of my specific, and in my invariable and certain method of applying the same, that constitutes my anti-psoric discovery, which discovery the French Government called forth in One thousand seven hundred and ninety-four by 25 making an appeal to the officers attached to the medical department, and which was afterwards investigated and approved by the report of the Medical Commission on the Nineteenth day of August, One thousand eight hundred and twelve.

Explanation of the Effects of Mettemberg's Water as a Specific Remedy 30 against Psoric Disease generally, and as the best Cosmetic.—First, it is curative inasmuch as it destroys even the radical disease of scabies in a manner physically demonstrable. Secondly, it is indicative because it discovers the existence of internal psoric disease by its mode of operating always expulsive or external-revulsive by occasioning in this peculiar case only a pruriginous 35 and critical eruption. Thirdly, it is derivative inasmuch as it brings to the parts subjected to the lotions an irritation existing elsewhere, as, for example, tetters on the breast, on the face, on the scrotum, or a fixed pain may be brought to one or other of the limbs, and removed from the organs essential to life. Fourthly, it is depurative inasmuch as it continues to cause characteristic 40

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

eruptions and superabundant perspiration until the extinction of the internal psoric disease. Fifthly, it is a preservative against the effects of contagion, inasmuch as it destroys the psoric disease in its origin, and prevents its propagation before the development of those symptoms which characterise
 5 scabies. Sixthly, it is the best cosmetic, inasmuch as it corrects the dryness of the skin; the clearness of the complexion, the freshness and beauty of the skin, depend chiefly upon a free insensible perspiration. No other waters for the toilette have specific properties for destroying the animalculæ which exist in numbers in a heavy and much agitated atmosphere, such as that of crowded
 10 public rooms, and insinuate themselves more particularly into the skin of the face, and finally injure the state of it. This strengthening and special specified cosmetic may be applied in all climates and in all seasons to soldiers, sailors, and all individuals collectively in temporary baths or washing rooms under the superintendence of a medical man.

15 Particular Directions respecting the Use of the concentrated Quintessence Antipsorique, or Mettemberg's Water.—In order to extend the use and success of my new method over all parts of the globe as a valuable benefit to mankind, to avoid bulk, facilitate the carriage, and insure the genuineness of the specifico-cosmetic, I have adopted the plan of concentrating my anti-psoric
 20 liquor, so that one bottle shall be sufficient to make eight by simply adding pure water, as herein-after described. The bottle containing the concentrated Mettemberg's water should be well shaken, then a small glassfull poured into a well rins'd bottle, and over it seven times the capacity of the same small glass of soft water (river or spring water as clear as possible), so that the bottle
 25 shall contain an eighth of the concentrated remedy. The mixture is then to be shaken, the bottle carefully corked and put by to be used in precisely the same way as the ordinary quintessence anti-psorique, or Mettemberg's water, and according to the instructions herein-before given. The composition of the concentrated Mettemberg's water is precisely the same as that of this ordinary
 30 remedy, with this difference, that the distilled or common water is left out to be added afterwards, as herein-before described. I also prepare a concentrated and decanted Mettemberg's water. This extract decanted (that is, suffered to stand, and poured off clear, leaving the sediment at bottom) is more particularly meant to be employed, first, as a medico-cosmetic, or for the prophylactic
 35 or preventative lotion; twelve drops in a quarter of a glass of pure water (or about one ounce) will completely remove obstruction in the skin, give it tone, correct its dryness, protect it against any virus which it might absorb, and preserve it in a healthy state. Experience recommends the absorption of this cosmetic to be made use of immediately after having touched any suspicious
 40 person or thing, and having exposed oneself to the introduction of any

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

miasma or virus into the skin. The absorption may be effected in a very short space of time with the aid of the open air, and of slight friction.

Secondly, for the hygienic toilette, in which case the general absorption of this extract in doses of fifteen drops in half a glass, or two ounces, of rum or brandy or kirschenvasser, occasions a salutary warmth in the skin, assists the 5 functions, prevents the bowels from becoming confined, prevents and cures pains symptomatic of rheumatism and gout, which proceed from intercepted perspiration as well as from repercuted scabies. This lotion will counteract the fatigues of a sea voyage or journey, compensate for the want of exercise, keep up the fluidity of the humours, prevent many infirmities, and retards the 10 effects of age; it must be considered as very valuable, particularly in England, where the perspiration is much more liable to be checked from the effect of damp fogs, the effluvium of coal fires, &c., the frequent variations of the atmosphere.

Thirdly, six drops in a quarter of a glass of water, or about one ounce, 15 will suffice daily to wash after shaving, in order to remove any infection from the razor, prevent pimples and tetter on the face, to keep up a free insensible perspiration, on which alone depends the clearness of the complexion, the softness, smoothness, freshness, and true beauty of the skin, and to be used partially as the most prudent and best cosmetic. 20

Fourthly, this last mixture, which is never repercussive, may also be used successfully to allay and dress morning and evening all partial affections of the skin, having recourse, however, at the same time, if it should not prove sufficient to effect a cure, to the new medical method herein-before described, or merely to daily lotions, applied in the evening to the lower extremities 25 according to the directions for the hygienic toilette above mentioned.

In conclusion, what I claim the exclusive right and benefit of, under my herein-before in part recited Patent, is, the composition of the quintessence anti-psorique or Mettemberg's water, and the use and combination of the several articles entering into the composition of the same, according to the 30 receipt herein-before given, as combined with the process of using or administering the same by instantaneous absorption, as herein-before described. I likewise lay claim to the said compound in its concentrated form, and in its form of a medico-cosmetic for the use of the toilette, and the mode of using the same, as also herein-before fully described. 35

In witness whereof, I, the said Joseph De Mettemberg, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Thirtieth day of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-five.

METTEMBERG. (L.S.)

De Mettemberg's Improved Vegetable, Mercurial, and Spirituous Preparation.

AND BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the Thirtieth day of July, in the year of our Lord 1825, the aforesaid Joseph De Mettemberg (through the interpretation of Charles Drewry, the said interpreter being first sworn, that he had truly, distinctly, and audibly interpreted the contents of the above
5 Specification to the said Joseph De Mettemberg, and that he would truly interpret the acknowledgment of the same) came before our said Lord the King in His Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained and specified, in form above written. And also the Specification aforesaid was stamped according to the tenor of the
10 Statute made for that purpose.

Inrolled the Thirtieth day of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-five.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1857.

